

Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) Assessment Information Document

May 22, 2014



*The purpose of this document is to provide regular updates to Alaskan educators and members of the public about the implementation of the new Alaska assessment for grades 3-10, Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP). This document will be updated regularly. New information will be marked and the date of the document will be in both the title and the footer. **Contact** Elizabeth.davis@alaska.gov for more information or visit www.akassessments.org.*

Components of the Alaska Measures of Progress Testing Program

Practice Test: The practice test will be available in fall 2014. The focus of the practice test is to give students experience with the online assessment technology. There will be three practice tests: grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-10. Each practice test will have traditional item types, such as multiple choice, and items that utilize technology enhanced items, such as dropdown menus or drawing lines. Students, teachers, and members of the community have unlimited access to the practice test.

Testlets: The testlets are short, 8-10 item tests available to teachers to use to inform their instruction. These optional, no-stakes assessment tools are designed around instructional targets. The testlets will be available beginning in January 2015.

Interim Benchmark Assessment: The optional interim assessment will be available to districts beginning in fall 2015. The purpose of the interim assessment is to provide information on students' progress on grade level standards in English language arts and math. The assessments are given twice per year, in fall and winter. These assessments will be adaptive and will be scored on the same vertical scale as the summative assessment and will be designed to meet the requirements for the educator evaluation regulations.

Summative Assessment: The summative assessment will have two subtests, English language arts and mathematics. Although the assessment is not timed, each subtest will take most students between 90-120 minutes. The summative assessment will be rolled out in two phases. The assessment will be fixed form for the first two years. After two years, Alaska will have enough items to have an adaptive assessment. Adaptive assessments provide greater score precision and provides an assessment experience for students that is "a good fit." Items that require keyboarding and listening items will also be phased in.

Scoring: Students will receive scores from 1-4, with 1 being the lowest score and 4 being the highest. The score of 3 is the "meets standard" score. Score descriptions are currently being developed.

Technology: Most students will take the online assessment. EED and the Achievement & Assessment Institute (AAI) will work with schools in the summer and fall of 2014 to assist them in getting ready for the online delivery. AMP is administered using a test delivery engine called KITE. It can be installed on desktops, laptops, and tablets. Once opened it shuts down all other applications on the device, making the test administration secure. In addition, AMP utilizes a local caching service (LCS). An LCS is an application that is loaded onto a laptop or desktop; the LCS enables testing to continue if there is minimal bandwidth. **All schools will be required to test their students online in spring 2015 unless there is substantial evidence that online testing is not possible due to lack of technological resources or infrastructure.** EED, along with the Achievement and Assessment Institute, will provide schools with site certification guidance. If a school is determined to be unable to administer the tests online in 2015, EED will work with the district to write a plan that makes online testing possible in the next three years. A paper/pencil form of AMP will be available to those schools that are approved for a period of transitioning to online testing.

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Information for families and communities: EED is working with AAI to develop a variety of materials and other methods to communicate to students, families, and communities about the new assessment.

The AMP Assessment Window: In 2015 the window will be five weeks long: Monday, March 30 – Friday, May 1. Each student will take two content assessments, English language arts and math. Each content assessment will take students an average of 90 and 120 minutes (the tests are not timed). Unlike the paper/pencil SBAs, not all students in a district will take the assessment on the same days. The following chart shows the designated testing weeks for each grade level. Two options are given; option A is designed to accommodate larger elementary/middle/high schools with single grade classrooms; option B is designed to accommodate smaller K-12 schools. **Districts may choose to test students earlier than the designated weeks, but may not delay testing for grades beyond the “finish week” and may not test earlier than March 30, 2015.** EED encourages districts to test all students as early as possible within the window.

	AMP Option A		AMP Option B
Week 1 March 30-April 3	Begin Grade 3, Grade 7		
Week 2 April 6-10	Begin Grade 4, Grade 8	Finish Grade 3, Grade 7	Begin and finish Grade 3,4,7,8
Week 3 April 13-17	Begin Grade 5, Grade 9	Finish Grade 4, Grade 8	Begin and finish Grades 5,6,9,10
Week 4 April 20-24	Begin Grade 6, Grade 10	Finish Grade 5, Grade 9	
Week 5 April 27-May 1		Finish Grade 6, Grade 10	

Science: The science test for grades 4, 8, and 10 is not changing at this time. The paper/pencil science assessment in 2015 will continue to be managed by Data Recognition Corporation (DRC). Districts must administer the science test March 30 – April 3, 2015. All students of the same grade level must take the science assessment on the same day. EED is currently determining the best course of action for the Alaska science assessment after 2015.

AMP paper/pencil: Approved schools will administer the paper/pencil AMP on district designated days within April 13-24, 2015. If more than one school in a district is approved for paper/pencil administration they must administer the assessment on the same two days.

	Science paper/pencil grades 4,8,10	AMP paper/pencil Approved schools only
Week 1 March 30-April 3	Districts will designate testing days per grade in this window.	
Week 2 April 6-10		
Week 3 April 13-17		Approved schools will designate 2 testing days for all students within this window.
Week 4 April 20-24		
Week 5 April 27-May 1		

Opportunities for Educator Involvement

Summer Passage Writing Workshops: Learn from experienced writing instructors and gain valuable writing experience, while creating passages with authentic Alaskan voices and topics for the new assessments.

- June 23-27 in Juneau at UAS; July 14-18 in Fairbanks at UAF.
- ED593 credit available. Full day classes.
- \$500 stipend.
- Limited free campus lodging available.
- Workshops are free but limited to 20 participants each.
- **To apply visit <http://bit.ly/PYPWWS> or the Alaska AMP website www.akassessments.org.**
- Deadline for housing is May 30; deadline for registration is June 15.

Practice Test Item Review: The practice tests will allow students to experience the new online test administration environment and to interact with a variety of assessment types. Educator review and feedback will ensure that the practice test materials are appropriate and accessible for all students, free from bias and sensitivity, and respectfully representative of all Alaska students. Reviewers will need access to a broadband Internet connection and be able to download the KITE testing software onto their computers.

- July 14-July 21, 2014
- Practice test reviews will occur remotely via group webinar and independent, online work during the week of July 14-21.
- Required: July 14, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., orientation and overview webinar.
- Required: July 21, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., wrap-up webinar.
- Each reviewer will spend approximately 3-6 hours reviewing 60-90 items over the week of July 14.
- Technology requirements can be found at www.akassessments.org.
- Reviewers will be paid \$100.
- **To apply visit the Alaska AMP website www.akassessments.org.**
- Deadline to apply is June 6.

Additional item review opportunities will be available as AAI adds more items to the Alaska Item Bank. In addition, educators will be involved in assisting with other test development activities. Please check www.akassessments.org regularly for updates.

Assessment Activities Timeline (2014-15)

- June and July 2014: Passage Writing Workshops, Juneau (6/23-27) and Fairbanks (7/14-18)
- July 2014: Practice Test item remote-review (bias and sensitivity)
- Fall 2014: Practice Test available; will be available throughout year
- Fall 2014: Item reviews with Alaskan Educators begin; ongoing
- Fall 2014: AMP rollout activities begin; ongoing
- January 2015: Testlets available
- January/February 2015 (date TBD): District Test Coordinator Testing
- March 30 – May 1 2015: AMP online test window
- June 29 – July 2 2015: Standard Setting for 2015 assessment



Assessment Development Timeline

